AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method to facilitate suspending threads in a platform-independent virtual machine implemented on an operating system that lacks a global mechanism for suspending threads, comprising:

scheduling a thread to execute that requires other threads to be suspended during execution; and

in response to scheduling the thread,

changing a scheduling policy for the thread, wherein changing the scheduling policy for the thread includes changing the scheduling policy from round-robin to first-in, first-out, which guarantees that the thread will run to completion without being interrupted by an event timer mechanism, and

raising a priority of the thread to a highest available priority, whereby changing the scheduling policy and raising the priority of the thread causes the thread to run to completion while other threads do not run.

2. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 1, further comprising:

upon completion of the thread,

reducing the priority of the thread to an assigned priority; and

returning the scheduling policy of the thread to an assigned scheduling policy.

3. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein the thread requiring other threads to be suspended includes a garbage collection thread.

4 (Canceled).

5. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein the operating system that lacks the global mechanism for suspending threads includes POSIX.

6. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein the platform-independent virtual machine includes a JAVA VIRTUAL MACHINE™.

7. (Previously presented) The computer implemented method of claim 1, further comprising performing a garbage collection with the thread.

8. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a method to facilitate suspending threads in a platform-independent virtual machine implemented on an operating system that lacks a global mechanism for suspending threads, the method comprising:

scheduling a thread to execute that requires other threads to be suspended during execution; and

in response to scheduling the thread,

changing a scheduling policy for the thread, wherein changing the scheduling policy for the thread includes changing the scheduling policy from round-robin to first-in, first-out, which guarantees that the thread will run to completion without being interrupted by an event timer mechanism, and

raising a priority of the thread to a highest available priority, whereby changing the scheduling policy and raising the priority of the thread causes the thread to run to completion while other threads do not run.

9. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, the method further comprising:

upon completion of the thread,

reducing the priority of the thread to an assigned priority; and

returning the scheduling policy of the thread to an assigned scheduling policy.

10. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein the thread requiring other threads to be suspended includes a garbage collection thread.

11 (Canceled).

12. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein the operating system that lacks the global mechanism for suspending threads includes POSIX.

13. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein the platform-independent virtual machine includes a JAVA VIRTUAL MACHINE™.

14. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, the method further comprising performing a garbage collection with the thread.

15-21 (Canceled).